

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double brackets indicating deletions.

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A knitting method using a stretch yarn for knitting a fabric with a stretch yarn by a knitting machine capable of controlling yarn tension, comprising:

predetermining data specifying relationships between a feed length of the stretch yarn to be used for knitting fed to the knitting machine and a yarn length in a finished state of a knitted fabric obtained by shape memory properties of the stretch yarn, by changing gradually yarn tension of the stretch yarn;

specifying the finished state of the knitted fabric; and

forming a fabric while feeding the stretch yarn to the knitting machine according to the specified finished state ~~specified~~, the yarn tension ~~having the relationships being related~~ to the data, and the feed length of the stretch yarn,

wherein the specified finished state of the knitted fabric is based on a feeling sample to be knitted.

2. (Previously Presented) The knitting method of claim 1, wherein the finished state is specified by the stitch loop length of the knitted fabric and the yarn tension.

3. (Currently Amended) The knitting method of claim 1, further comprising:

preparing paper pattern data expressing a shape of a knitted product to be formed of the fabric using the stretch yarn; and ~~a~~ the feeling sample to be knitted by using said stretch yarn, and varying the yarn tension and the stitch loop length of the fabric being knitted;

~~performing the specification of the finished state of the knitted fabric based on the feeling sample; and~~

creating knitting control information for knitting the knitted product with the knitting machine according to the specified finished state and the paper pattern data, ~~thereby~~ to form the knitted fabric according to the created knitting control information ~~created~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A knitting apparatus using a stretch yarn for knitting a fabric with a stretch yarn by a knitting machine, comprising:

a data storage means for predetermining and storing device to store data specifying relationships between a feed length of the stretch yarn to be used for knitting fed to the knitting machine and a yarn length in a finished state of a knitted fabric obtained by shape memory properties of the stretch yarn, by changing gradually yarn tension of the stretch yarn;

a specification input means for inputting device to input a specification of the finished state of the knitted fabric; and

a control means for creating device to create control data for forming a knitted fabric with reference to the data stored in the data storage means device, while feeding the stretch yarn in the feed length and under the yarn tension corresponding to the finished state of the knitted fabric, so that the knitted fabric is brought into the finished state inputted to the specification input ~~means~~ device,

wherein the specification of the finished state of the knitted fabric is based on a feeling sample to be knitted.

5. (Currently Amended) The knitting apparatus of claim 4, wherein the data to be stored in the data storage ~~means~~ device contains gauge feeling data ~~indicating~~ to indicate a knitting needle array density necessary when ~~for a~~ ~~ease in which~~ a fabric having a feeling on a stitch loop length equivalent to that of the finished state of the knitted fabric is to be knitted with a knitting yarn other than the stretch yarn, and the specification input ~~means~~ device can also specify the finished state with the gauge feeling data.

6. (Currently Amended) The knitting apparatus of claim 4, wherein the data storage ~~means~~ device is prepared with data specifying the relationships on the stretch yarn and the knitting texture for predetermined references; and

the data storage ~~means~~ device contains not only that data but also data on correction coefficients ~~to~~ of the data which are used ~~in a case where~~ when other stretch yarns and knitting structures are used, and which are concerned with a standard stretch yarn and a standard knitting texture.

7. (Currently Amended) The knitting method of claim 2, further comprising:

preparing paper pattern data expressing a shape of a knitted product to be formed of the fabric using the stretch yarn, and a the feeling sample to be knitted by using said stretch yarn, and varying the yarn tension and the stitch loop length of the fabric being knitted;

~~performing the specification of the finished state of the knitted fabric based on the feeling sample; and~~

creating knitting control information for knitting the knitted product with the knitting machine according to the specified finished state and the paper pattern data, ~~thereby~~ to form the knitted fabric according to the created knitting control information ~~created~~.

8. (Currently Amended) The knitting apparatus of claim 5, wherein the data storage ~~means~~ device is prepared with data specifying the relationships on the stretch yarn and the knitting texture for predetermined references; and

the data storage ~~means~~ device contains not only that data but also data on correction coefficients ~~to~~ of the data which are used ~~in a case where~~ when other stretch yarns and knitting structures are used, and which are concerned with a standard stretch yarn and a standard knitting texture.